HA'THAYIM MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK
(A.K.A. VON DONOP MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK)

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

February 2003

Approved by:

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Date: Feb. 3/03

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Date: February 11, 2003

HA'THAYIM MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role
The **primary** role of Ha'thayim Marine Park is to provide a marine recreation experience for boaters traveling in the Inside Passage to Alaska or exploring the Desolation Sound area. In order to provide safe anchorages with an attractive natural setting, a series of parks like Ha'thayim have been established.

Ha'thayim Marine Park is located on the northwestern tip of Cortes Island and access is by boat only. Recreational opportunities include hiking, picnicking, swimming, kayaking, fishing, scuba diving, and nature appreciation. There is also wilderness camping available with limited facilities.

Secondary Role
The **secondary** role is to protect the natural environment. Ha'thayim Marine Park makes a significant contribution (18%) to the representation of the Strait of Georgia *Terrestrial* Ecosection (SOG), and smaller contributions to the complex Outer Fiordland Ecosection (OUF) and the Johnstone Strait *Marine* Ecosection (JS), all of which are under represented in the protected areas system. The park also contributes to the protection of the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) xm1 and dm biogeoclimatic subzones, which are both under represented in the protected areas system. The representation of the CWHxm1 variant is particularly significant because it has been highly modified and only two percent of it has been protected provincially. Not much of this subzone remains intact and this protected area is important as it is the fourth-largest contributor (out of 51 protected areas) to its representation.

Ha'thayim Marine Park protects significant wildlife habitat in the form of lakes, wetlands, a saltwater lagoon, old growth forest, mature second growth forest, and intertidal/subtidal areas. The park contains fine sediment beaches which are a significant feature not only for the resident marine life, but also for migratory shorebirds. The park is home to flying squirrels and Douglas squirrels as well as river otter and mink. Harbour seals are often seen in the inlet, and during the winter months, northern and California sea lions are present. The northern resident population of killer whales occasionally pass through Sutil Channel, but rarely enter the inlet. Ha'thayim supports diverse marine species assemblages and has abundant shellfish, especially clams. Numerous coastal birds and songbirds inhabit the area, including bald eagles.

Tertiary Role
The **tertiary** role of the park is to protect cultural values, both First Nations and European. The park protects significant First Nations values that offer glimpses to the past and demonstrate their tie to the land. The park also holds reminders of settlements, mining and logging that were undertaken by European settlers.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Marine access by private landholders in the park	➢ Work with private landholders to ensure access to private land.
Impact on park values through adjacent forest development, and development of inholdings	➢ Work with adjacent land owners, Ministry of Forests and industry to ensure park values are taken into consideration during forest and other types of development.
Contamination of foreshore by boat discharge	➢ Work with DFO to create a no dumping regulation in the park. ➢ Develop and implement a water quality monitoring program. ➢ Increase public awareness through signage and website about impacts of dumping.
Commercial extraction of resources, especially clams, from marine area	➢ Work with DFO to enforce shellfish closures and monitor status of clam population.
Lack of knowledge and awareness of cultural values	➢ Undertake cultural inventory and traditional use study of whole park in conjunction with First Nations. ➢ In conjunction with First Nations, develop interpretative information on park values and appropriate behaviour.
Potential impact of recreational use on cultural and natural values of the park	➢ Implement BRIM to assess impact of random recreational use. ➢ Develop facilities when deemed necessary to concentrate recreational use.

Zoning

Natural Environment Zone – covers the entire park (1,277 ha). The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	☒	Ha'thayim Marine Park is the second largest contributor (18.2%) to the under-represented Strait of Georgia (SOG) *Terrestria!* Ecosection (only 5.4% protected). Southern Texada Island is the largest contributor (27.2%). It also makes a small contribution of 2% to the under-represented Outer Fiordland Ecosection (OUF), which has only 3.3% protected. Ha'thayim contributes 3.9% to the under-represented Johnstone Strait *Marine* Ecosection (JS), which has only 3.7% protected provincially.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☒	Ha'thayim Marine Park is the fourth largest contributor (6.4%) to the under-represented CWHxm1 variant, which has only 2.07% protected provincially. It also makes a small contribution of 1.4% to the under-represented CWHdm subzone, which has only 5.9% protected.
Special Features	☒	Reversing rapids, fiords, tidal flats, saltwater lagoon, wetlands, lakes, and old growth forest remnants
Rare/Endangered Values	☒	Red-listed northern sea lion
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☐	None known at this time

Recreation

Representation backcountry	☐	Not Applicable
destination	☒	Key marine destination and anchorage
travel corridor	☒	Part of high-use marine and kayaking route on the Discovery Coast
local recreation	☒	Fishing in lakes, recreational clamming
Special Opportunities	☒	Ideal location for yachting; scuba diving opportunities
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☐	None known at this time

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☒	Mining history, traditional First Nations' use of landscape; European name related to British Navy surveying.

Special Feature	☒	Archaeological, spiritual and burial sites

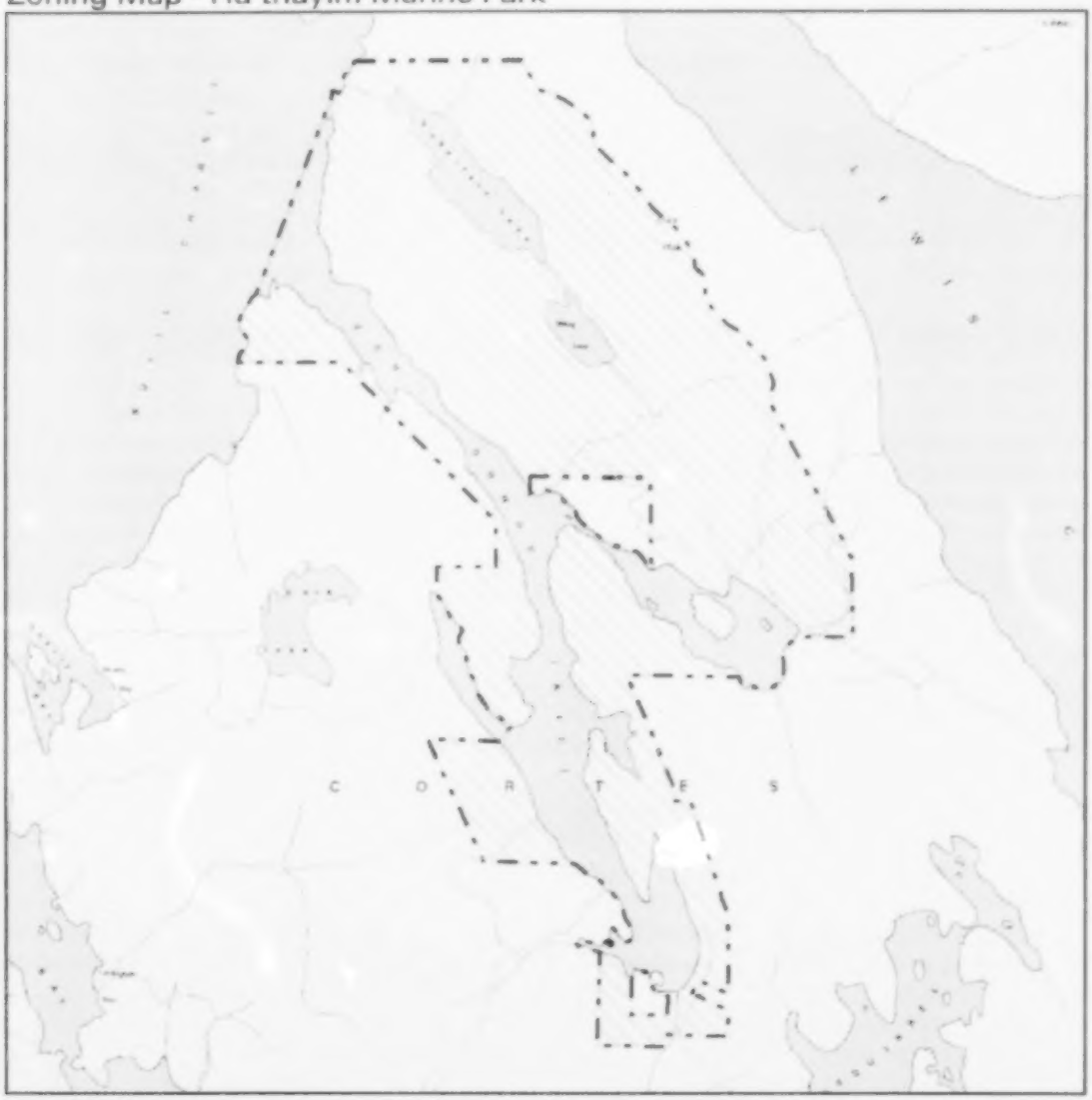
Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	Not Applicable
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a system of protected areas and anchorages along the Inside Passage
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☒	Management agreement with Klahoose First Nation. Fishery closure specific to the park: Pacific oyster
Partnerships	☐	Not Applicable
Vulnerability	☒	Adjacency concerns may impact the recreational and natural values; water contamination by boast sewage
Relationship to other Strategies	☒	Marine Protected Areas Strategy

Area: 1,277 hectares (917 ha upland; 360 ha foreshore)

Date of establishment: December 2, 1993

Zoning Map - Ha'thayim Marine Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 1
km

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